

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
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C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 1488

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: AORG ECA
SUBJ: SOVIET INFLUENCE IN ECA

REFS: A. ADDIS ABABA 0360 B. STATE 012282

1. EMBOFF HAD OPPORTUNITY BRIEFLY TO SEE CURRENT ECA
STAFFING LIST AND NOTED THAT THERE WERE FOUR USSR AND
TWELVE USCITS ON ECA EMPLOYMENT ROLLS.

2. FOUR USSR EMPLOYEES AND POSITIONS ARE THOSE
NOTED REFTEL B: VICTOR F ELISSEJEV, SERGEY A.
LISSITSIN, IGOR A. SEMYENOV, AND VITALI A. SELDEV.

3. TWELVE US EMPLOYEES AND THEIR POSITIONS ARE:
ANSELL, ANN TRACY - TRANSLATOR
DALTON, JOHN HEYWOOD - JOINT ECA/FAO AGR. DIV.
DELVALLE, GORDON - BLDG. MAINT/STORES
HAFKIN, NANCY - SOC.DEV. DIV/TRAINING AND RESEARCH
CENTER FOR WOMEN (SDD/TRCW)
HENSON, WARNER - INT'L TRADE AND FIN. DIV/AFR.
TRADE CENTER
LORD, EDGAR FRED - JOINT ECA/FAO AGR. DIV.
PALGEN, JACK - NATURAL RESOURCES DIV/ENERGY UNIT
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SEILER, MARION ELIZABETH - ADMINISTRATIVE/LIBRARY
SNYDER, MARGARET - SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT DIV/TRCW
TAHIR, LUCRETIA - ADMINISTRATIVE/PERSONNEL SECTION
WALKER, BARBARA - TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COORDINATION
AND OPERATIONS OFFICE
WORTH, CONSTANTINE - CHIEF, DOCUMENTS SERVICES UNIT
NOTE: DEL VALLE, HAFKIN AND TAHIR ARE LOCAL HIRE;

OTHERS ARE INTERNATIONAL.

4. NEW ECA TELEPHONE DIRECTORY DATED JANUARY 1978 NOW AVAILABLE. COPIES HAVE BEEN POUCHED TO USUN AND DEPARTMENT. UNFORTUNATELY, DIRECTORY DOES NOT INDICATE NATIONALITY OR GRADE OF EMPLOYEE.

5. ON SURFACE, DIRECT SOVIET INFLUENCE WITHIN ECA WOULD SEEM LIMITED. WHILE ELISSEJEV'S POSITION AS HEAD OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND CONFERENCE DIVISION WOULD SEEM TO GIVE SOME SCOPE TO INDIRECT INFLUENCE, DISCUSSIONS WITH ECA PERSONNEL INDICATE THAT EX-SEC ADEDEJI HAS THE SAJOR SAY IN DETERMINING WHO FILLS THE HIGHER POSITIONS WITHIN ECA, AND THAT DIVISION CHIEFS GENERALLY DETERMINE WHO WILL BE ON THEIR STAFFS. IN THIS CASE, ELISSEJEV HAS LITTLE OPPORTUNITY TO PUT SURROGATES INTO POSITIONS OF REAL INFLUENCE.

6. ECA POSITIONS, ASIDE FROM THAT OF THE EX-SEC AND HIS DEPUTY, SEEN BY THE EMBASSY AS BEING QUOTE KEY UNQUOTE ARE CHIEF, ADMIN AND CONF. DIV. (WHERE A GOOD ADMINISTRATOR COULD ENHANCE THE EFFICIENCY OF THE ORGANIZATION); CHIEF, SOCIA-ECONOMIC RESEARCH AND PLANNING DIVISION; CHIEF, INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND FINANCE DIVISION; AND HEAD, INFORMATION SERVICES
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UNIT.

7. EMBASSY WILL CONFER FURTHER WITH ECA CONTACTS ON VIEWS OF QUOTE KEY UNQUOTE POSITIONS WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION AND WILL ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON DEPARTURE DATES OF PRESENT INCUMBENTS, INCLUDING THAT OF ELISSEJEV.

8. FAO/ROME OFFICIALS ON RECENT VISIT TO ECA NOTED TO EMBOFF THAT SOVIET INFLUENCE WITHIN ECA SEEMED GREATER THAN DURING PREVIOUS VISITS TO ETHIOPIA. THEY ADDED THAT THE SAME TREND WAS TAKING PLACE WITHIN FAO/ROME. IN NEITHER CASE, HOWEVER, DID THEY CITE SPECIFICS.

9. COMMENT: IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT THERE IS A GENERAL FEELING OF GROWING COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TODAY. LESS CLEAR IS WHETHER THIS TREND IS INDIRECTLY ENCOURAGED BY A US POLICY WHICH HAS ATTEMPTED TO ALLOW THE THIRD WORLD A GREATER SAY IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. IT APPEARS THIS SPEAKING ROLE HAS BEEN PREEMPTED BY RADICAL GROUPS

WHICH MAKE COMMON CAUSE WITH THE SOVIETS TO ESPOUSE
ANTI-WESTERN THEMES. IN ITSELF BAD ENOUGH, THE SUCCESS
OF THESE RADICAL GROUPS IN THUMBING THEIR NOSES AT THE
WEST WITH IMPUNITY, APPARENTLY IS PERSUADING MODERATES ALSO
TO FALL IN LINE WITH SOCIALIST POLICIES. AN UNFORTUNATE
OUTCOME OF THIS IS THE POOR IN THE LDCS BECOME EVEN
POORER, WHILE THE INFLUENCE OF THE WEST CONTINUES TO
WANE. PERHAPS FURTHER THOUGHT, INDEED EVEN AGGRESSIVE
ACTION, IS NOW CALLED FOR BY THE US, BEFORE THE
EROSION OF OUR INFLUENCE DENIES US THAT OPTION.
MATHERON

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